UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

ivestigation or:

M/V COSCO BUSAN/BRIDGE ALLISION *
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA * Docket No.: DCA-08-MM-004

Interview of: CAPT. PATRICK MALONEY

Thursday, January 31, 2008

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to notice, at 8:35~a.m.

BEFORE: BARRY STRAUCH

National Transportation Safety Board

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1 INTERVIEW

- 2 (8:35 a.m.)
- 3 MR. STRAUCH: It's January 31st, it's 8:35. We're
- 4 interviewing Captain Maloney of the California Board of Pilot
- 5 Commissioners for the bays of Francisco, San Pablo.
- 6 And as we said, I'd like you to acknowledge that
- 7 you're being recorded and you agree to being recorded.
- 8 CAPT. MALONEY: I acknowledge.
- 9 MR. STRAUCH: Okay, all right. All right, everybody
- 10 that's here was here before except Gary Toledo representing --
- 11 CAPT. TOLEDO: OSPR, O-S-P-R, Office of Spill
- 12 Prevention and Response.
- MR. STRAUCH: Okay.
- 14 CAPT. TOLEDO: From the State of California
- 15 Department of Fish and Game.
- 16 MR. STRAUCH: Okay. And we'll conduct this the way
- 17 we conducted the other interviews, except Crystal is not here.
- 18 But I will lead the, the questioning, and then allow everybody
- 19 in turn to ask questions. Please identify yourselves before
- 20 you ask questions. Please hold your questions until it's your
- 21 turn. Everybody will get at least one turn and more if
- 22 necessary to make sure that we ask the questions that we do.
- Captain Maloney, I know in the last interview you
- 24 were asked about your background, your responsibilities, and
- 25 how investigations were conducted. So we have those on the

- 1 record. There's no reason for me to ask them, but if I do ask
- 2 a question that you answered in a previous interview, please
- 3 bear with me, and I apologize in advance.
- 4 CAPT. MALONEY: I understand.
- 5 INTERVIEW OF CAPT. PATRICK MALONEY
- 6 BY MR. STRAUCH:
- 7 Q. Now as I understand it, the -- your organization
- 8 oversees the San Francisco Bar Pilots Association.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. Are there other pilots associations that you,
- 11 your organization oversees as well?
- 12 A. We have one inland pilot that we also have the state
- 13 oversight on, but, no, aside from that it's the San Francisco
- 14 Bar Pilots and the one inland pilot.
- Q. By pilot, you mean individual, not organization? One
- 16 person?
- 17 A. One person, yes.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. The last inland pilot.
- Q. Okay. What happens when that person ceases to be an
- 21 inland pilot?
- 22 A. There will be no more inland pilots.
- Q. Okay. So your organization sounds like it primarily
- 24 oversees the San Francisco Bar Pilots Association.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 O. Okay. And you represent the State in doing this?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Who sets the standards for licensing of the,
- 4 the Bar Pilots Association?
- 5 A. Well, all of the pilots have to have -- Master's
- 6 License. Minimum 1600 tons. After that, it's a matter of
- 7 testing, and then training.
- 8 Q. Okay. And who sets the standards of testing and
- 9 training?
- 10 A. Well, it's in Commission regulations, so it would
- 11 have been the Commission as developed over the years.
- 0. Okay. And how does the Commission ensure that the
- 13 Bar Pilots are following the Commission's is it regulations or
- 14 quidelines and licensing?
- 15 A. Well, we have statutes and we have regulations.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. So -- how do we determine that they're following it?
- 18 Q. Yes.
- 19 A. I don't understand the question. I mean we, we have
- 20 the oversight for the training and then the pilot's license is
- 21 renewed annually.
- 22 Q. Okay. And the renewal of the licenses, that's
- 23 according to which standards?
- A. Well, they, they have to apply for the renewal,
- 25 provide a copy of their federal license so we're sure that

- 1 that's still valid, and pass a physical examination. Depending
- 2 on their age, either every other year or every year.
- Q. Okay. So the standards that they must meet in annual
- 4 renewal are federal standards or state standards or both?
- 5 A. Well, they have to meet the, the physical standards
- 6 for the Coast Guard.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. And aside from that, maintain their license.
- 9 Q. Okay. Does the State have physical requirements that
- 10 differ in any way from the federal requirements?
- 11 A. Not that I'm aware of. We have the SHIPS Guidelines.
- 12 Are you familiar with that?
- 13 O. No.
- 14 A. Let me get a copy. SHIPS is an acronym. Seafarers
- 15 Health Improvement Program. And that was under the sponsorship
- 16 of the Maritime Administration. Our board physicians have
- 17 copies of this, and then we also provide the pilot with the
- 18 copy of the Coast Guard physical form.
- 19 Q. Okay. So these standards are -- are they comparable
- 20 to the Coast Guard? I, I -- since I haven't seen them, I have
- 21 to ask you to characterize it.
- 22 A. I don't know.
- Q. Okay. What are the requirements that the State has
- 24 on pilots to report medication use?
- 25 A. We do not have them.

- 1 0. Okay.
- 2 A. They, they would report that to their physician when
- 3 they're getting their physical.
- 4 O. Okay. And as you understand the federal rules, what
- 5 are pilots' requirements to report medication use to the Coast
- 6 Guard?
- 7 A. That I don't know.
- 8 Q. Okay. Are there any medications that the State
- 9 prohibits pilots from using?
- 10 A. Not that I'm aware of.
- 11 O. Are there any physical conditions that the state
- 12 prohibits pilots from having while serving as a pilot?
- 13 A. That is in the SHIPS Guidelines. There are
- 14 prohibitions, yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. Do you know what they are?
- 16 A. There's a list of just qualifying conditions,
- 17 absolute exclusions, and do you want me to go over this list?
- 18 It's several pages long.
- 19 Q. Maybe if you could just kind of just give us the
- 20 highlights, if you would. Or what they include.
- A. Neoplasms.
- 0. Cancer.
- A. Yeah.
- Q. Endocrine nutritional and metabolic diseases, disease
- 25 of blood and blood form, organs, hemophilia for instance. I

- 1 have friends who had to stop sailing. Mental disorders,
- 2 diseases of the nervous system and sense organs. There are
- 3 visual acuity standards. There are hearing standards.
- 4 Diseases of circulatory system, diseases of respiratory system,
- 5 diseases of digestive symptoms, diseases of genital urinary
- 6 system and musculoskeletal system, amputations for instance,
- 7 double amputees.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. There are other conditions that are disqualifying
- 10 during a period but can be recovered from, including just
- 11 lesser levels of the ones mentioned.
- 12 Q. Have you given these guidelines to the Safety Board,
- 13 a copy of these guidelines?
- 14 A. To NTSB?
- 15 Q. Yes.
- 16 A. I did not last time. I can make you a copy.
- 17 Q. Please. If you would.
- 18 A. Sure.
- 19 Q. How does the State ensure that a pilot meets all the
- 20 conditions?
- 21 A. We have four physicians, who we've provided copies of
- 22 this to, and the, the pilots do their physicals with those
- 23 physicians.
- Q. Who are the four physicians?
- 25 A. I can give you a list of them.

- 1 O. Does it include Dr. Calen (ph.)?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And pilots go only to one of these physicians?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Is that by statute?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. How do these physicians become aware of conditions
- 8 that pilots may have that may not be disqualifying that would
- 9 be of interest to the state that they would be reporting to
- 10 their primary physician?
- 11 A. Well, the pilot would have to tell them.
- 12 Q. And is that by statute or by some other way?
- 13 A. I don't think it's referred to in statute.
- 0. Okay. So is, is there any requirement that a pilot
- 15 report his medical conditions to one of these four physicians?
- 16 A. I don't know. I'd have to get the, the regulation
- 17 and look at it.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. And I can provide you with a copy of the regulation.
- Q. If you would.
- 21 A. Sure.
- 22 Q. Okay. How often are you in contact with
- 23 representatives of management of the Bar Pilots Association?
- A. The port captain? Or I'm sorry, the port agent?
- Q. Yeah. Whoever would represent the Association at a

- 1 senior level.
- 2 A. As often as necessary.
- 3 Q. About how often would that be?
- 4 A. Multiple times during a week.
- 5 Q. Okay. And what kinds of things do you discuss with,
- 6 with this person?
- 7 A. Well, Commission matters. He would be the conduit
- 8 that I would find out about an incident.
- 9 Q. Uh-huh. Okay.
- 10 A. So anytime we have, we have business.
- 11 O. Okay. And I know last time you talked about how you
- 12 investigated an incident and the process you used and so on and
- 13 so forth. When an incident is -- well, you describe how -- the
- 14 resolution of incident and what happens after that.
- 15 A. Well, it depends on what the incident is.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. That's awfully wide.
- 18 Q. Let me just refer to one of Captain Cota's incident,
- 19 and my question now is more generic, but there's an incident in
- 20 April '97 that involved an allision with a container gantry
- 21 crane at Oakland, number 37, attributed to minor pilot error.
- 22 Positioning of crane contributed to the, to the incident.
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. The vessel, I think, was the -- Caspian.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Okay. So something like that, a relatively minor
- 2 incident, but there is some pilot involvement, what would
- 3 happen? Once your investigation is completed, what happens
- 4 after that?
- A. well, in that case, as you say, that was some pilot
- 6 error. We finish the report, and that is disseminated to
- 7 the -- to all the pilots and any other interested parties and
- 8 to be used as lessons learned.
- 9 Q. And are your reports considered public documents?
- 10 A. They are.
- 11 Q. Okay. Has the Board requested copies of the reports
- 12 involving Captain Cota in the --
- 13 A. I provide copies to all of the commissioners, and
- 14 they're, they're in the files. I mean if someone wanted to
- 15 look at them, they're there.
- Q. Do you know if you provided them to us, the Safety
- 17 Board?
- 18 A. I think so, yeah.
- 19 Q. Okay. Now suppose there is not one incident but a
- 20 series of incidents over time, over some period of time.
- 21 A. Uh-huh.
- 22 O. How does the Board treat the series of incidents as
- 23 supposed to each incident individually?
- 24 A. That is part of my investigation report. I have in
- 25 my, my list of things that we look at is an enclosure that

- 1 lists all of a pilot's incidents over his career. And so the
- 2 Incident Review Committee would look at that and basically see,
- 3 is there a pattern? And take that into consideration in how we
- 4 close the incident.
- 5 Q. And, and forgive me if this was asked before, but
- 6 what is your role with the Incident Review Committee?
- 7 A. I am one of the members.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. Incident Review Committee is myself and a public
- 10 member.
- 11 O. Okay. You are familiar with Captain Cota's record of
- 12 incidents?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. How would you characterize his record with other bar
- 15 pilots' records of similar experience? I think he had 27 years
- 16 as a, as a bar pilot.
- 17 A. 26.
- 18 Q. 26. Okay. What kind of record would you expect of
- 19 someone with 26 years of experience, record of incidents?
- 20 A. Well, I would expect to see some, but not many. He
- 21 had, I believe, five in the last 15 years. There were some
- 22 prior to that. But the system of investigation wasn't as
- 23 sophisticated as it is now, and it's, it's hard to come up with
- 24 valid information on those. So I'm more comfortable with the
- 25 ones that I investigated.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. How would I characterize it?
- 3 Q. Uh-huh.
- 4 A. I would say more than the average or number but not
- 5 by much.
- 6 Q. So are there some with more incidents than Captain
- 7 Cota?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. A lot more? A lot more people or --
- 10 A. A few more.
- 11 O. Okay.
- 12 A. And where they do their work plays a part of it. For
- 13 instance, you would typically see more incidents for the guys
- 14 who are running the rivers because of the, the much more
- 15 confined waters and the circumstances of what they do up there.
- 16 Q. Did Captain Cota's area include rivers?
- 17 A. No, it does not.
- 18 Q. So if you look exclusively at those pilots whose area
- 19 did not include the rivers, how does Captain Cota's record
- 20 compare with others?
- 21 A. Well, as I say, generally more incidents than average
- 22 but not by a lot. It's kind of hard to quantify.
- Q. Okay. And now there's one incident that's actually
- 24 not listed in the record of incidents that I have, and that was
- 25 in 2004. There was no damage done, perhaps that's not why it's

- 1 here, but involved a Navy vessel, the USS Tarawa.
- 2 A. Tarawa.
- 3 Q. The -- as part of, part of the resolution of that
- 4 incident, Captain Cota was sent for a psychiatric evaluation.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you know who sent him to, to the evaluation? Was
- 7 that the Commission?
- 8 A. We did, yeah.
- 9 Q. Okay. And the result of the psychiatric evaluation
- 10 was that there was no, no disqualifying mental condition?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Okay. And was that the, the end of the investigation
- 13 of the Commission or was there any more thing done after that,
- 14 after the psychiatric evaluation was --
- 15 A. No, that was the end of it.
- 16 Q. Okay. Should there have been more follow-up?
- 17 A. I don't think so.
- 18 Q. And why not?
- 19 A. He got a, he got a clean bill of health. There was
- 20 nothing else to be done about it. That particular event was
- 21 treated as a medical issue, not a piloting incident. The
- 22 piloting that went on with that particular occasion was
- 23 actually quite good. He was given a very challenging
- 24 situation, and he did a good job.
- Q. What was the situation that was challenging?

- 1 A. The ship, the Tarawa is -- she was like an aircraft
- 2 carrier, okay. So her island is off on the starboard side.
- 3 They were coming into Pier 3032, which is just down on the
- 4 other side of the Bay Bridge. They were going Portside 2 right
- 5 on the face of the pier and they had flood current. So he's
- 6 got to turn the ship around and dock it into the current from
- 7 the off side of the ship, and he did it. He pulled it off
- 8 just, just fine. When the, when the Incident Review Committee
- 9 was discussing with him, we, we were impressed with the, the
- 10 piloting job.
- 11 O. When you discussed the other part of it, his
- 12 behavior, what was your sense of his explanation of his
- 13 behavior?
- 14 A. We found it wanting.
- 15 Q. In what way?
- 16 A. We found his behavior to be very unprofessional. As
- 17 I said, the piloting went fine. It was just socially
- 18 inappropriate behavior.
- 19 Q. And because it was socially inappropriate, you, you
- 20 considered it to be a medical issue and not a piloting issue?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. If you add the Tarawa incident to the other
- 23 incidents, now you've had six incidents in 10 years, how does
- 24 that make his average compared to other, other pilots?
- 25 A. Well, it's still higher than the average.

- 1 O. Okay. What does it take for the Commission to look
- 2 at these incidents and say these are not isolated incidents,
- 3 these are a pattern of performance and behavior that we need to
- 4 now look very, very closely at the person's performance level?
- 5 A. If we were investigating an incident and we saw a
- 6 pattern, then we would take a look at it, and as far as does it
- 7 need to be addressed.
- 8 Q. Did you do that with Captain Cota?
- 9 A. After the Tarawa incident?
- 10 Q. After -- up until the Cosco Busan incident.
- 11 A. The last time he had an incident, we gave him a
- 12 letter of warning because he had a ship that grounded, and he
- 13 didn't take corrective action on it. We didn't see a pattern
- 14 in that, but you know we, we were distressed that he hadn't
- 15 taken corrective action.
- 16 Q. Okay. Well, are there any guidelines or advisories
- 17 that the Commission uses to determine when a series of
- 18 incidents becomes a pattern of performance or behavior?
- 19 A. No, there's no guidelines.
- Q. Should there be?
- 21 A. There hasn't been a need for it. The -- the number
- 22 of incidents is relatively small. In some years we have as few
- 23 as six.
- Q. So are there any other measures other than incidents
- 25 or physician evaluations that the Commission uses or the

- 1 Commission expects the Bar Pilots Association to use to detect
- 2 performance deficiencies before they occur --
- 3 A. I wouldn't see any myself. Now I, I'm trying to
- 4 think how to answer that. We're not involved in the day-to-day
- 5 operations of the pilots, so I really don't find out if there's
- 6 something going on unless it turns into an incident.
- 7 O. What do you expect the bar pilots to do to -- for
- 8 their part in this case? Again to detect weaknesses in
- 9 performance or behavior before they become -- before it could
- 10 lead to an incident?
- 11 A. If they thought there was a problem, I would expect
- 12 the port agent to let me know.
- Q. Uh-huh. And what would the port agent do to detect
- 14 weaknesses?
- 15 A. Well, just observation of the, the members --
- 16 O. Okay. Could you describe your relationship with the,
- 17 with the Coast Guard with the captain of the port?
- 18 A. As far as what does -- what kind of interaction does
- 19 the Commission have?
- Q. Yes. What do you see as the areas of, of
- 21 responsibilities and how the Commission exercises those
- 22 responsibilities with the Coast Guard's area of
- 23 responsibilities and how well the Commission and Coast Guard
- 24 get along in exercising their individual responsibilities to
- 25 ensure harbor safety?

- 1 A. The, the biggest interface we have is with Ross
- 2 Wheatley's section at the Investigation Shop. In many cases,
- 3 we have investigations over the same incident, and share
- 4 information. Aside from that, we don't have too much
- 5 interaction with the captain of the port, the individual.
- 6 Q. Okay. So the Coast Guard has their area of
- 7 responsibilities and the Commission has its own areas of
- 8 responsibility?
- 9 A. Well, they have their, they have the federal
- 10 licensing. We have the state licensing. In the event of an
- 11 incident, we have shared responsibility on, on the
- 12 investigations. I mean sometimes my investigator will run into
- 13 Ross's investigator at the ship at the same time, and as I say,
- 14 we, we share information sometimes.
- 15 Q. And --
- 16 A. We try to make it a complimentary set of
- 17 investigations. Sometimes my investigator can get information
- 18 that they -- a Coast Guard investigator might not find, and in
- 19 many cases, I go to Ross and say have you got this? My guy
- 20 wasn't able to get it.
- Q. What about proactive? What, what -- how do you work
- 22 with the Coast Guard proactively rather than after the fact of
- 23 an accident in terms of --
- A. Well, we try to provide the best-trained pilots that
- 25 we can. We've got the Commission training program under the,

- 1 the -- there's the trainee program where we're taking people
- 2 who have not been licensed by the Board yet and training them
- 3 to be pilots, and then there's the continuing education
- 4 programs that we send the pilots to, including the manned model
- 5 simulator at Grenoble, as well as classroom training.
- 6 Q. Okay. And do you remember you covered this in the
- 7 previous interview with the Safety Board?
- 8 A. We didn't talk about the training too much.
- 9 Q. Well, you -- who sets the standards for training, the
- 10 Commission or the Bar Pilots Association?
- 11 A. The Commission sets the standards, and that's based
- 12 on input from the pilots and from the industry.
- Q. And from -- by industry you mean whom?
- 14 A. The shipping industry.
- 15 Q. Local or international?
- 16 A. What we have locally.
- 17 Q. And you said that you have training program. You
- 18 send people to the simulator at Grenoble. Is that France?
- 19 A. Yes, it is.
- 20 Q. And what were the other programs that --
- A. Well, we've got the, the classroom program, which is
- 22 currently at MITAGS on the East Coast. That includes bridge
- 23 resource management. There's, there's a host of other things
- 24 in the regulation. Electronic navigation systems. It's a
- 25 five-day course.

- O. So you require people spend five days at MITAGS
- 2 taking classroom training?
- 3 A. It happens to be MITAGS this time. We've had it at
- 4 California Maritime Academy. We've had it down San Diego.
- 5 They just have the current contract.
- 6 Q. But the key thing is it's five days and includes
- 7 bridge resource management, electronic charting and so on?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. And who pays for that, the Commission or the
- 10 Bar Pilots Association?
- 11 A. The Commission does through a surcharge on the
- 12 pilot --
- 13 O. And how often does the Commission look at the
- 14 training standards and assess whether or not they continue to
- 15 be adequate?
- 16 A. At the end of each cycle, which on that particular
- 17 program is three years.
- 18 Q. And how has the -- how has you changed over the
- 19 years?
- 20 A. It's -- it hasn't changed over the years too much
- 21 because it was broadly worded to begin with. What has changed
- 22 is the source of the training. We -- it, it's competitive and,
- 23 as I say, on the last go around MITAGS provided the best
- 24 package.
- 25 Q. And what kind of communications does the Commission

- 1 have with other -- with your counterparts in other states and
- 2 localities to ensure that you're keeping up with national level
- 3 standards?
- 4 A. We haven't talked so much about standards, but I
- 5 have -- I've got contacts in the Washington State and Oregon.
- 6 I haven't talked with anyone in Florida for quite awhile, and
- 7 it's been awhile since New York also.
- 8 Q. Well, there are no national standards, is that, is
- 9 that correct or --
- 10 A. Not that I'm aware of, no.
- 11 O. Okay. Well, what mechanism is there for state pilot
- 12 commissions to ensure that they maintain the best possible
- 13 standards given what other commissions are doing throughout,
- 14 throughout the country, other than informal contacts with
- 15 people and -- or acquaintances and other officials?
- 16 A. There hasn't been anything going on recently. In the
- 17 early '90s, Florida hosted a Pilot Commission Symposium. There
- 18 were two of those in Florida and one later in New Orleans, and
- 19 that was the last of them. That was still fairly informal, but
- 20 it gave us an opportunity to talk about what our programs were
- 21 like, and it was, it was mostly looking at each other's
- 22 training. We talked about our incident investigation process.
- 23 But there hasn't -- as I say, there hasn't been anything
- 24 recently on that.
- Q. When was the one -- one in New Orleans was the most

- 1 recent one?
- A. Yes. And that was probably '94 or '95.
- 3 Q. In 1994, the National Academy of Sciences came out
- 4 with studies piloting called Minding the Helm. Are you
- 5 familiar with --
- 6 A. Yes. I've got a copy.
- 7 Q. Okay. And I think there was -- was there somebody
- 8 from the Commission who served on that group? Some guy named
- 9 Arthur.
- 10 A. Art Thomas.
- 11 O. Oh.
- 12 A. Yeah, he -- I'm trying to think what, what his
- 13 connection with that study was. He was --
- 14 Q. That's all -- just -- bring up that name.
- 15 A. Okay, yeah. I, I've got a copy of it in the
- 16 bookshelf over there.
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the conclusions of the,
- 18 of the study?
- 19 A. It's been years since I looked at it.
- 20 Q. Okay, so --
- 21 A. I've read it, but --
- 22 Q. Okay. So you don't feel qualified to discuss some of
- 23 the conclusions at this point?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Well, when you did read it, what did you think

- 1 of the study?
- 2 A. I thought it was pretty thorough.
- Q. Okay. The -- what does the Commission require pilots
- 4 to do after an accident?
- 5 A. Report it.
- 6 Q. Report it. Anything else?
- 7 A. Well they, they report it immediately to the port
- 8 agents all -- I've had calls from pilots myself. The inland
- 9 pilot reports directly to me in case there's something. The --
- 10 within the pilot organization, they arrange for drug and
- 11 alcohol testing as soon after as possible. And then we start
- 12 our investigation. If it's, if it's serious enough, a pilot
- 13 might not be reassigned until it's been more thoroughly
- 14 investigated. Generally, that's not the case.
- 15 Q. How quickly after an accident do you expect to talk
- 16 to the pilot involved?
- 17 A. Generally within hours.
- 18 Q. Uh-huh. And Coast Guard, as I understand it, sends
- 19 inspectors to -- as quickly as possible after an accident and,
- 20 and the inspectors among other things try to get crew members
- 21 -- wandered on, on the vessel. Does the Commission have any
- 22 requirements that pilots remain on board to await the arrival
- 23 and work of the Coast Guard inspectors when they board the
- 24 vessel?
- 25 A. No. We don't have a Commission requirement for that.

- 1 O. Okay. Should there be one?
- 2 A. I don't think so. The, the pilot is going to be
- 3 available for being interviewed, and I, I don't see a need for
- 4 it from, from my standpoint.
- Q. Okay.
- 6 A. My investigator will be getting there later. Just
- 7 from a practical standpoint, holding the pilot on the vessel
- 8 would impede him getting that drug and alcohol testing done,
- 9 which other organizations would be very interested in.
- 10 Q. Okay. Of course it could be argued that the vessel
- 11 crewmembers have to comply with the same drug and alcohol
- 12 testing requirements as the pilot does. No?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 O. The -- and forgive me if I asked this question -- but
- 15 as I understand it, there are no federal standards for civology
- 16 (ph.) and Ectus (ph.) or radar, is that correct?
- 17 A. I'm not an expert on that, but that is my
- 18 understanding also.
- 19 Q. And do you know about how many different types of
- 20 displays there might be if one is just using Ectus?
- 21 A. Only anecdotally. I understand -- and this is from
- 22 doing our interviews in November, that there are I think a fair
- 23 amount, you know. How finite is that? I, I don't know. You
- 24 know, I can't say eight different ones, but information we got
- 25 from Captain Cota and other pilots are that there are multiple

- 1 standards out there.
- Q. Well, given that there is no single standard, some
- 3 would argue that there should be. How does the Commission
- 4 ensure that pilots are, are sufficiently familiar with the
- 5 multiple standards of displays that there are that they could
- 6 perform effectively given differences in standard civology
- 7 displays and so on?
- 8 A. The only training that they would have on that would
- 9 be during the one-week course we send them to where they would
- 10 be exposed to what is, what is current in the electronic
- 11 navigation world. Aside from that, they're going to be getting
- 12 probably the best opportunities by seeing what's out there,
- 13 because of the experts, because of having the opportunity to
- 14 see everything that comes through there.
- 15 Q. The, the course that they take, whether it's MITAGS
- 16 or -- or whatever, the one week includes both VRM and
- 17 electronic navigation?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And do you know how many days is spent on each?
- 20 A. Yeah. The electronic navigation portion I think is
- 21 only a part of a day. VRM, as I recall, is two days.
- Q. Okay. And how are the other two plus a fraction days
- 23 spent?
- A. I can get you a course synopsis. Let me provide that
- 25 for you. I haven't been to that particular school so I don't

- 1 recall.
- Q. Okay. How often do pilots take this week-long
- 3 training?
- 4 A. It's on a three-year cycle, but we're considering
- 5 moving it to a five-year cycle. That may be reconsidered with
- 6 the Busan and perhaps more emphasis on electronic navigation.
- 7 O. Do you -- how adequate do you consider the fraction
- 8 of a day as -- navigation in this course?
- 9 A. It's, it's basically informational. We're, we're
- 10 putting together a Navigation and Technology Committee that's
- 11 going to be addressing this at the Commission. And just
- 12 yesterday we were looking at the, the latest in pilot carried
- 13 electronic navigation systems.
- 0. Should there be a requirement that pilots carry their
- 15 own navigation systems? That way they won't have to depend on
- 16 local standards, vessels and so on.
- 17 A. That's going to be addressed by our Navigation and
- 18 Technology Committee. There's, there's things to be said for
- 19 it and there's things to be said against it. It -- I don't
- 20 think it should be mandated. It has to be something that each
- 21 pilot decides, and that's, that's one of the things we'll be
- 22 talking about.
- Q. What are the pros and cons of, of this particular
- 24 navigation --
- 25 A. Well, the pros are that you're carrying independent

- 1 navigation system. Again depends on which system you have, and
- 2 there are multiple systems out there. And it gives you a, an
- 3 independent source of navigation beyond what the ship has.
- 4 Although it can plug in and use ship's navigational information
- 5 also. So it's one more piece of information. The cons are
- 6 it's that much more to carry around, and our pilots board 11
- 7 miles offshore, and that boarding can be somewhat rigorous.
- 8 Getting on and off the ship is the most dangerous part, and
- 9 having an additional 10 pounds to carry around, could make it
- 10 more hazardous.
- MR. STRAUCH: All right, at this point, I'm going to
- 12 not ask further questions. Then let's go with Gary and we'll
- 13 go around the table this way. Again, I'll ask each person to
- 14 identify themselves before they ask their questions.
- 15 BY CAPT. TOLEDO:
- 16 Q. Good morning. Gary Toledo, OSPR. Just have a few
- 17 questions for you. You, you had mentioned or commented that if
- 18 a pilot or if there is an incident with a pilot and upon review
- 19 from the Incident Review Committee, you mentioned that the
- 20 information is disseminated to the pilots and any other
- 21 interested party, and then, and also you mentioned something
- 22 about lessons learned. Now is there -- is that a written
- 23 procedure in, in your guidelines for as a result of conducting
- 24 the incident review and your recommendations are that --
- 25 lessons learned? In other words, is it stated somewhere in

- 1 your procedures that that's part of the process?
- 2 A. That is not part of the incident review regulation.
- 3 You mean as far as getting the information out?
- 4 O. Yes.
- 5 A. No. It's not included in the regulation, but when I
- 6 started doing this quite a few years ago, I thought, okay,
- 7 we've got the incident review report and it's a public
- 8 document, why don't I send it out. And so I started giving it
- 9 to all the pilots, all the investigators. I've got a list at
- 10 the bottom of the report that shows who all it goes to. The
- 11 current number, I think, is 92. All the trainees get it. And
- 12 the response was so positive that I've been doing it ever
- 13 since. But in answer to your question, no, it's not in
- 14 regulation.
- 15 Q. So this is, this is something that you have
- 16 determined based on your experience to get the word out.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. It's not, it's not laid out as a procedure, but this
- 19 is something that you do?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. Okay. If these lessons learned or once these lessons
- 22 learned go out, are there any instances where policy changes or
- 23 procedural changes would be made and adopted by the pilots, the
- 24 bar pilots? In other words, in other words, let's say that --
- 25 I'll use an example. Let's say once a lesson is learned in a

- 1 particular situation is let's say in the future the pilots will
- 2 board in this area to allow for longer turnover between a
- 3 pilot -- let's -- as a pilot change. Now would that just be
- 4 mentioned as a best learned or best practiced or would that
- 5 actually become a -- could that actually become a policy
- 6 adopted by the pilots?
- 7 A. That would be up to the pilots, but I don't think we
- 8 would try to put that in regulation.
- 9 Q. Uh-huh. No, I was just, what I was looking for is
- 10 the pilots have their set of guidelines that they operate with.
- 11 Is it, is it procedure that if it is a best practice or a good
- 12 lesson learned that they would insert it into their practices?
- 13 Not as a regulation but as their -- as a guideline to their
- 14 operations.
- 15 A. Well, that would be up to them.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. I mean I --
- 18 Q. Right.
- 19 A. -- I stay out of operations.
- Q. Okay. The process is that you get the word out and
- 21 it's up to the pilots to determine if they're going to make
- 22 that a policy change or a procedural change?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. I just was trying to find the delineation
- 25 between where your -- where you end and the pilots take over as

- 1 far as a lesson learned.
- 2 A. Part of the spreading of the information -- I mean I
- 3 have the 92 copies that would go out for distribution, but when
- 4 we are closing out an incident, that's done at the board
- 5 meeting and the, basically a recap of what the incident was,
- 6 opinions of the Incident Review Committee, and recommendations
- 7 are all put into the Board minutes, which go out to a much
- 8 wider mailing and now are available on line.
- 9 Q. Another question. With regard to incidents, are
- 10 there any more serious incidents that would be cause for
- 11 concern that would -- there's an incident -- is there any way
- 12 that would flag by your group saying this is a very serious
- 13 incident and, you know, there's greater concerns for this? Or
- 14 are you just looking at -- what I'm asking you is when we
- 15 talked, when you mentioned John -- or Captain Cota had six
- 16 incidents in the last year, was there anything that peaked your
- 17 interest as far as any of those incidents being you know of
- 18 greater severity that would cause more concern on the
- 19 Commission's part?
- 20 A. You mean was there a red flag out there?
- 0. Yes. Uh-huh.
- 22 A. The only, the only red flag was the, the
- 23 inappropriate behavior on the Tarawa.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. We thought that it was unprofessional. We had other

- 1 harsher words that we used also. But that had been attended
- 2 to. The, the grounding that happened a year before, as I say,
- 3 we considered serious enough because he didn't catch it and
- 4 respond, that we gave him a letter of warning. We didn't find
- 5 it was something we thought suspension was appropriate on.
- 6 Also it was pretty minor. But there are incidents that do get
- 7 more attention, and we investigate everything that's reported
- 8 to us, and when necessary, we take actions in accordance with
- 9 the, the seriousness of it. And we, we had one several years
- 10 ago where we were moving toward a suspension or revocation
- 11 hearing. The same pilot some years before that had another
- 12 incident that was serious to the point that he stipulated to a
- 13 nine-month suspension. And if he hadn't done that, we would
- 14 have gone for a suspension or revocation hearing.
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: May I just make a comment so
- 16 that there's -- the record doesn't become unclear. Mr.
- 17 Toledo's question I think implied that the evidence indicates
- 18 that Captain Cota had six incidents in the last year. I think
- 19 that the testimony in the record would probably reflect that --
- 20 I don't know whether it was six incidents in the last 10 years
- 21 or 15 years but there's nothing to indicate that Captain Cota
- 22 had incidents in the last year. I think that statement by
- 23 Captain Cota -- by Captain Maloney was some years in which
- 24 there are only six incidents investigated, and not six
- 25 incidents by Captain Cota.

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's correct.
- 2 CAPT. TOLEDO: Okay. Thank you.
- 3 BY CAPT. TOLEDO:
- 4 O. The incident with Captain Cota on the Tarawa, which
- 5 was, the recommendation was that he seek or go to a -- seek
- 6 psychiatric treatment or an evaluation.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. And the information that came back was that there was
- 9 no, there was not a psychiatric -- he did not have a
- 10 psychiatric problem or he, he got a clean bill of health. I
- 11 guess that's what you had meant.
- 12 A. Yes. And we sent him to two psychiatrists.
- 13 Q. Is -- does the Commission make any recommendations as
- 14 far as like an employee assistance? In other words, an
- 15 individual who -- well, I guess in this particular case, it
- 16 was -- the cases I'm referring to it's -- there was anger. It
- 17 involved anger on the bridge or something to that effect, him
- 18 being agitated. Is there any -- would there be any indication
- 19 or inclination that the Commission would say perhaps, you know,
- 20 you should, you should take anger management or go to anger
- 21 management?
- 22 A. We did.
- Q. You did. And his reply was?
- 24 A. He did.
- 25 Q. He did?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Well, that's good because I, I did not have
- 3 that in the record. Glad to know that. With regard to the
- 4 Coast Guard and their authority on the license, the Coast Guard
- 5 does not have authority over the state, over the license
- 6 activity -- or the activity of the pilot when he's in state
- 7 waters, is that correct?
- 8 A. There, there are jurisdiction questions. We -- there
- 9 are legal technicalities, which I'm told about, but as I say,
- 10 we don't let them hinder us. If, if a pilot has an incident
- 11 anywhere within our jurisdiction, we investigate it. It has
- 12 been said if the pilot is operating on a U.S. flag intercoastal
- 13 ship, he's operating under the authority of his federal
- 14 license, not his state license. But if there was an incident,
- 15 we would investigate. And there's precedent with that. Matter
- 16 of fact, it has Mr. Petzel's (ph.) name attached to it.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- have to do with Coast Guard
- 18 authority.
- 19 CAPT. MALONEY: Did I answer your question?
- BY CAPT. TOLEDO:
- Q. In a sense in that no, I guess the answer is no, per
- 22 se. Is that, is that what I understand in this particular
- 23 case, and anyone -- if there is an incident with a pilot in
- 24 inland waters that Coast Guard authority is --
- 25 A. Well, they have authority to investigate also.

- 1 O. Authority. Do they have the authority to go against
- 2 the license, I guess is what --
- 3 A. His federal license, yes.
- 4 Q. His federal license but not his, not his state
- 5 license?
- 6 A. We act against the state license only.
- 7 Q. One last question. With regard to training, do you
- 8 recall Mr. -- or Captain Cota's last training session? Was it
- 9 within the last year or two or do you recall?
- 10 A. I could find out, but I don't recall.
- 11 Q. Is there a requirement that -- you mentioned the
- 12 three-year cycle for each of -- for the pilots to go through
- 13 their training, and is there a way to keep track of who is, who
- 14 is going through the training?
- 15 A. Oh, yes.
- 16 O. And is there --
- 17 A. We've got that information.
- 18 Q. Is there, is there also a check and balance in place,
- 19 you know, if someone has fallen through the cracks for whatever
- 20 reason that there's a follow-up, say Pilot A, you, you've
- 21 missed your training, you know -- we need to get you back in?
- 22 Is there -- or is it left up to the pilot?
- 23 A. We keep track of it, and actually a pilot who misses
- 24 training can be subject to disciplinary action.
- Q. Okay. That is part of the, the procedures?

- 1 A. Yeah.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. There are times when we'll adjust the training cycle
- 4 to accommodate someone. So it might not be three years, you
- 5 know, when he last was trained. It might be three and a half
- 6 or four. The five-year cycle on the Grenoble, same thing.
- 7 There's some -- modest tweaking that's done with that, but in
- 8 general we're pretty good about keeping the guys on cycle. But
- 9 we do, we do track and make sure that they, they go, and they
- 10 know there's the hammer over the head if they don't.
- 11 CAPT. TOLEDO: Thank you. No further questions.
- 12 BY MR. BROWN:
- 0. Steve Brown with the American Pilots Association. A
- 14 question or two on the physicals. You mentioned that based on
- 15 age I guess it was, a pilot is required to have a physical,
- 16 pilot physical every year or every other year.
- 17 A. I forget what the trip age is. It may be 50 years
- 18 old where we start every year. A first-class pilot is required
- 19 to have a physical for the Coast Guard every year. Our younger
- 20 guys we only have the state requirement for every two years.
- 21 think if you're, if you're young enough, and we don't have many
- 22 that, that are, it goes to a three-year requirement.
- Q. Do the requirements for the state and for the federal
- 24 license parallel each other, physical requirements? There's a
- 25 form within your federal physical that you have to --

- 1 mariner -- and is the state form similar?
- 2 A. We give them a copy of the federal form. Our -- what
- 3 we get back from the doctors is just a fit for duty, not fit
- 4 for duty or permanently not fit for duty. We don't see the
- 5 details.
- 6 Q. So in fact the pilots are required to take the
- 7 physical every year, but they're required to -- to the state
- 8 every other year or --
- 9 A. Depending on their age, yeah.
- 10 Q. And I guess one basic question. Does the Commission
- 11 recognize the right of a pilot to legal counsel in incidents,
- 12 investigations?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Apparently some people don't, so --
- 15 A. Really?
- 16 MR. BROWN: That will do it for the moment.
- 17 BY MR. NAGARAJAN:
- 18 Q. Aga -- I have one question about licensing. If my
- 19 understanding is correct, the state issues a license based on
- 20 federal license issued to pilot?
- 21 A. The federal license is a prerequisite. They have to
- 22 have a valid federal license in order for the state license to
- 23 be valid.
- O. Do we have dual examinations or their own tests or
- 25 can a pilot have only the state license and not have federal

- 1 license?
- A. No. You have to have the federal license in order to
- 3 have the state license. For instance, if a pilot, if a pilot's
- 4 federal license expired, his state license would not be valid
- 5 until his federal license is renewed.
- 6 Q. Coming back to if the state license is issued on the
- 7 basis of federal license, how is it that in an accident which
- 8 happened in state cannot be investigated by the fact on the
- 9 basis of his federal license? What is the -- you don't have to
- 10 explain. Just as an outsider, I just wanted to get an insight
- 11 if the license is issued based on some other license and --
- 12 federal government does not have jurisdiction over
- 13 investigation?
- 14 A. Well, no, they, they can and do. I mean Ross is
- 15 doing an investigation in parallel with mine.
- 16 Q. At the --
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know if we want to get
- 18 on the record the subtle distinctions between state and federal
- 19 jurisdiction and the whole history of the establishment of the
- 20 State of California or Pilots Association and the Ninth Circuit
- 21 Court of Appeals decisions which basically distinguish between
- 22 federal jurisdiction and state jurisdiction. It goes on ad
- 23 nauseum, and I'm not so sure that this is the right forum to be
- 24 discussing that. I think it may be sufficient for the record
- 25 that there is a distinction between respective jurisdictions of

- 1 the state and federal government to take action against the
- 2 respective licenses. And if you need some type of supplemental
- 3 white paper explaining those and the regulations that apply, I
- 4 guess we could endeavor to do that or provide something --
- 5 there have been a number of articles, cases, et cetera, which
- 6 discuss that at length.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And I guess this would be an
- 8 appropriate time to say that the National Transportation Safety
- 9 Board is the jurisdiction to investigate any and all marine
- 10 accidents in U.S. coastal waters, which we share with our
- 11 colleagues from the Coast Guard.
- 12 MR. PETZEL: Well, I think maybe what -- Captain
- 13 Maloney can speak to. He may not be able to speak to the issue
- 14 of when can the Coast Guard investigate and when can it not
- 15 investigate, at least not -- that's not necessarily his job,
- 16 but earlier Captain, you had asked the question and asked a
- 17 second question, and the first part didn't get answered, and
- 18 that is is there more than just having a federal license
- 19 necessary before a pilot can get a state license. And Captain
- 20 Maloney can't speak to the -- process, the selection process
- 21 that trainees go through, and the training program that the
- 22 training -- have to go through before a state license would be
- 23 issued to them. And maybe that was where you were leading, and
- 24 perhaps you can get that answer.
- MR. STRAUCH: Would you identify yourself for the

- 1 record, please.
- MR. PETZEL: I'm sorry. My name is Raymond Petzel,
- 3 counsel for this incident, for this matter today for Captain
- 4 Maloney as the Executive Director of the Board of Pilot
- 5 Commissioners.
- 6 MR. STRAUCH: Rick.
- 7 BY CAPT. HURT:
- 8 Q. Rick Hurt, San Francisco Bar Pilots. And Captain
- 9 Maloney, if a pilot is involved in an incident and either the
- 10 severity of the incident or a pattern is identified such that
- 11 additional action is deemed necessary by the Commission, and in
- 12 the process of the investigation the pilot retires, what
- 13 happens to the investigation?
- 14 A. Well, the investigation would continue as far as
- 15 finding out what, what went on, and ultimately it would, it
- 16 would be presented. And just like everything else, we would
- 17 try to use it as lessons learned.
- 18 Q. And as far as action against the license -- been
- 19 retired?
- 20 A. If the pilot has retired, then we wouldn't act
- 21 against the license because he's no longer licensed.
- 22 O. And has that scenario occurred?
- 23 A. It has occurred.
- Q. And how long ago?
- 25 A. Just several, several years ago was the last one,

- 1 and --
- 2 Q. More than once?
- 3 A. Oh, yeah.
- 4 0. Okay.
- 5 A. Yeah, it's, it's happened a few times.
- 6 Q. Okay. And you, you touched on, you touched on the
- 7 port agents, that you expected the port agent to, to not
- 8 dispatch pilots if there was concern. To your knowledge, has,
- 9 has the port agent ever exercised that authority?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And frequently or within last two years?
- 12 A. Well, certainly in this case, and, yes, it's, it's
- 13 happened in the last few years. It doesn't happen all that
- 14 often. This is not a, you know, who hasn't been dispatched
- 15 this month issue. But, you know, the port agent has the
- 16 discretion to not dispatch a pilot.
- Q. And, okay, and another -- recent was a grounding up
- 18 river.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. In the last five years, how many groundings -- have
- 21 occurred up river from -- just roughly, just -- would you say
- 22 more than five?
- 23 A. Yeah, I would, I would say.
- Q. And then lastly, you touched on the selection
- 25 process. Just for the record, can you just very briefly

- 1 describe the elements of the selection process for the
- 2 pilots --
- A. Yes. We have just gone through this process, so
- 4 it's, it's fresh in my mind. We, we advertise nationally. An
- 5 applicant fills in the application, has to meet minimum
- 6 requirements, which include a minimum 1600-ton Master's License
- 7 and documentation of a minimum of two years command time. Two
- 8 years being defined as 720 days. It has to be one year within
- 9 the last three prior to the application cut-off date and two
- 10 years within the last five. So there is a recency requirement.
- 11 For those who are qualified and meet the minimum standards,
- 12 they're invited to come in and take a test. The test is
- 13 developed under the supervision of psychomatricians. It's a
- 14 rigorous 100-question test. We've been doing this,
- 15 administering it up at California Maritime Academy. While the
- 16 test is going on, a group of San Francisco bar pilots is also
- 17 taking the same test. The psychomatricians determine from that
- 18 score what the passing score of the test will be. Those
- 19 candidates who have taken the written test and passed it are
- 20 then invited to come back and take the simulator exam.
- 21 Simulators at Cal Maritime also. That exam has been developed
- 22 using psychomatricians, and has quantifiable grading spots. We
- 23 have a group of evaluators come in. The, the evaluators are a
- 24 San Francisco bar pilot, a pilot from another jurisdiction, the
- 25 state licensing, and a shipmaster. Everyone who is doing the

- 1 evaluation is trained in how to do it. We make multiple test
- 2 runs. And then they, the candidates take the simulator exam.
- 3 We record those. And then after all that is done, the scores
- 4 are, are added up. Experience points are counted. We have a
- 5 in regulation how to determine experience points from what the,
- 6 the candidates bring prior to our testing process. The written
- 7 score is put in and then the simulator score is put in. From
- 8 that we develop a ranked list of candidates and as the need
- 9 allows they're brought into the training program. The training
- 10 program is a minimum of one year and a maximum of three. Those
- 11 individuals are contracted by the Commission. Every -- well,
- 12 the first step is if they don't already have their federal
- 13 pilotage, they go for that. We're finding someone who does not
- 14 have it when they come into our training program, it's
- 15 typically taking seven to nine months to get all the pilotage
- 16 for the, the bays. That includes up to Sacramento and
- 17 Stockton. Our jurisdiction also goes down to Monterrey, but we
- 18 do not do any training down there. That's done by a, a group
- 19 of very few of the pilots do Monterrey. Anyway, they -- after
- 20 the trainees get the -- all the pilotage done, they start
- 21 writing their score, if you will. Every job is graded, and
- 22 then every month the trainees are called in individually and
- 23 their progress reviewed by the Pilot Evaluation Committee, and
- 24 the Evaluation Committee determines when they have been
- 25 sufficiently prepared for licensing. It's a very rigorous

- 1 process.
- Q. One last question. Best of your knowledge did --
- 3 practical performance using the simulator?
- 4 A. I believe they're starting it up in Puget Sound now,
- 5 aren't they?
- 6 Q. -- Alaska, Puget Sound and -- thank you.
- 7 BY UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:
- 8 Q. I just have a few questions. Captain Maloney, you've
- 9 talked extensively about the, the Board of Pilot Commissioners
- 10 role as an investigator in the Investigative Review Committee.
- 11 Is the term incident, which seems to be the triggering factor
- 12 in commencing an investigation, is that term defined in either
- 13 statute or regulation?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. So unlike, unlike federal requirements which
- 16 require -- which is spelled out in for example 46 C.F.R. Part
- 17 4, there are not some more state regulations which establish
- 18 what a reportable incident is?
- 19 A. No. There are not.
- Q. How do you determine what is a reportable incident to
- 21 trigger an IRC investigation?
- 22 A. If we get a complaint, we would look into it.
- 23 Typically the, the normal way is the port agent will report to
- 24 me if a pilot reports an incident. On occasion, someone from
- 25 the public may call in a complaint about wake damage or

- 1 something like that. It's, it's pretty cut and dry as far as
- 2 the pilots reporting what they perceive to be incidents. I can
- 3 take a look at it initially and see if it meets what I perceive
- 4 to be an incident requirement, and then I would get involved
- 5 with the investigation.
- 6 Q. So it would be fair to say that you have some
- 7 discretion in deciding what incidents -- are or are not
- 8 investigated on behalf of the Commissioners?
- 9 A. Some discretion, yes.
- 10 Q. Can you give us based on your experience here what
- 11 would be a number of incidents on average, if you could,
- 12 typically investigated in a year for the Board of Pilot
- 13 Commissioners?
- 14 A. It varies, and there's no way of predicting it. I've
- 15 had several years where there have been as few as six incidents
- 16 investigated. The most I recall is 19 in one year. There's,
- 17 there's no pattern. You know, you'd think in real nasty
- 18 weather conditions you might have more, but that doesn't, that
- 19 doesn't come to pass. Could be everybody is being much more
- 20 careful.
- 21 O. You had also indicated that it's based upon the
- 22 investigation by the, the IRC and the Board they determine that
- 23 some type of we'll call it disciplinary or enforcement action
- 24 would be appropriate. Are those, the -- of those potential
- 25 actions defined anywhere, for example a state regulation

- 1 or --
- 2 A. They are. There's -- there are suggestions as to
- 3 what might be an appropriate remedial action, but it, it also
- 4 allows discretion based on the circumstances or -- for instance
- 5 if the IRC reviews the accident record of an individual. This
- 6 is, this is more than what we want to see here, and so
- 7 something beyond the suggested guidelines could be taken.
- 8 Q. Would the IRC consider in making that determination
- 9 or recommendation the past history of the individual pilot
- 10 involved in making, in determining what an appropriate sanction
- 11 or -- action might be?
- 12 A. We do that every time, yes.
- 13 Q. To the best of your recollection, could you tell us
- 14 basically when was the last time the IRC actually suspended a
- 15 state pilot license?
- 16 A. The IRC doesn't have --
- 0. Or made a recommendation to do that.
- 18 A. The last time we actually went to court was probably
- 19 back 2000. We, we had recommendations for hearings proceeding,
- 20 but having the pilot retire stopped that. The last one, you
- 21 know, it was -- California Orion case is the last one we
- 22 actually had the hearing on.
- Q. And you indicated that there had been several we'll
- 24 say retirements in lieu of going to a hearing subsequent to
- 25 that. Do you recall just roughly how many?

- 1 A. Well, between that one and now, just one. That was
- 2 the, the Maui case three years ago, four years ago.
- 3 Q. To the best of your recollection since you've been
- 4 serving as the Executive Director of the Board of Pilot
- 5 Commissioners, what is the most severe sanction, enforcement,
- 6 remedial action that you recall ever being levied against a
- 7 state pilot's license?
- 8 A. Well, the California Orion case, the license was
- 9 revoked but stayed on two years probation. I believe there was
- 10 a six-month outright suspension. We had the stipulated case
- 11 where the pilot took a nine-month suspension, and we've had a
- 12 few other cases where -- which didn't go to court, but the, the
- 13 pilot decided to retire. It was a real viable option.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't have any more
- 15 questions.
- 16 BY UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:
- 17 Q. Captain, you said in the Tarawa incident you sent
- 18 Captain Cota to two -- for two psychiatric evaluations.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Why two and not one?
- 21 A. We didn't think the first one was sufficient. So we
- 22 asked for a second opinion.
- Q. And the first one was the one where there were five
- 24 pages of, of written reports where they charged \$2500 for the
- 25 evaluation?

- 1 A. I don't recall. I, I can get the file and --
- Q. And what was it that made you think that that wasn't
- 3 sufficient?
- 4 A. Just reviewing it, we, we didn't, didn't like the
- 5 conclusions.
- 6 Q. So it was the conclusions and not the process that
- 7 made you feel that the second opinion was needed?
- 8 A. I don't recall. I, I would have to take a look at
- 9 the file.
- 10 Q. How many other times -- well, how long have you been
- 11 an Executive Director?
- 12 A. Coming up on 15 years.
- 13 Q. In the 15 years, how many times have you sent a pilot
- 14 for a psychiatric evaluation?
- 15 A. Twice.
- 16 Q. Okay. And what -- just briefly, what was the other
- 17 incident and when did that occur? And the nature of the other
- 18 incident in general.
- 19 A. A pilot threatened another pilot on the pilot boat
- 20 with an axe.
- 21 O. And what was the resolution of that?
- 22 A. We sent him to the psychiatrist also and he came back
- 23 with a piece of paper saying he was sane.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. None of us have one.

- 1 Q. Was this the same psychiatrist that you initially
- 2 sent Captain Cota to?
- 3 A. I don't think so.
- 4 Q. Now could you just briefly describe for me the nature
- 5 of the oversight of the pilot? I understand first is the
- 6 Pilots Association, then it's the Commission. Is that how it
- 7 works? And then who oversees the Commission's performance?
- 8 Kind of just walk us through the process briefly.
- 9 A. Well, what -- how do we oversee the pilots?
- 10 Q. No. Is it -- do you expect -- how do you expect the
- 11 Pilots Association to oversee a pilot? Is that part of, part
- 12 of what the Commission does is overseeing of the Pilots
- 13 Association, oversees individual pilots?
- 14 A. No. We stay removed from the operational aspect of
- 15 it.
- 16 O. Does the Pilots Association have any responsibilities
- 17 of oversight other than just, you know, making sure that pilots
- 18 are where they're supposed to be and so on?
- 19 A. Good professional business practices.
- Q. Okay. So the Pilots Association is primarily a
- 21 business rather than an overseeing regulatory kind of an
- 22 agency?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And who does the Commission report to?
- 25 A. The Governor.

- 1 O. Directly?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. You said that if a pilot missed training, he
- 4 or she would be disciplined. How many times has that occurred
- 5 in the 15 years you were --
- 6 A. We've never had one miss training. As I alluded to
- 7 we can adjust the training schedules, and so there have been
- 8 occasions where something came up, and we were able to
- 9 accommodate it, but no one has deliberately missed training.
- 10 If they had, disciplinary action would have followed.
- 11 Q. You said the most recent suspension was in
- 12 approximately 2000 in California, Orion case. How many other
- 13 suspensions were there in your tenure with the Commission?
- 14 A. We've had stipulated suspensions from the IRC, and I
- 15 haven't counted them, but probably at least a dozen. The nine-
- 16 month suspension was the longest. The -- we had a -- and this
- 17 is just anecdotal. I'm -- searching my memory. It seems to me
- 18 there were a couple of two-month stipulated suspensions, and
- 19 pretty fair number of two-week stipulated suspensions. More
- 20 often than doing a suspension, we would have pilots do training
- 21 trips or we've sent them to school at their own expense.
- 22 O. In your discussions with other commissions, you said
- 23 you, you just talk things over with -- in Puget Sound and
- 24 others. How does the Commission's disciplinary record compare
- 25 to those commissions?

- 1 A. I don't know.
- Q. You said your reports are made available online?
- 3 A. The reports are available online through the Board
- 4 minutes. And the -- that is only the, the synopsis of what the
- 5 incident was about. Anyone in the public can ask for the full
- 6 report, which would have the findings of facts and then
- 7 everything else that shows up in the minutes.
- 8 Q. What is the website? Can you --
- 9 A. Dub, dub, dub dot pilot commission dot org.
- 10 Q. Okay. And for the record, psychomatrician is spelled
- 11 p-s-y-c-h-o-m-a-t-r-i-c-i-a-n. Because in the last transcript
- 12 it was misspelled.
- 13 A. Okay.
- 0. And, finally --
- 15 A. If we're to find someone who actually knows what that
- 16 is.
- 17 Q. I went to school in that field many years ago. And
- 18 you graduated Kings Point?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. How did you like Kings Point?
- 21 A. I did.
- 22 O. Okay.
- 23 A. I, I enjoyed my time there.
- Q. Thank you.
- MR. STRAUCH: One last round of questions. Gary?

- 1 CAPT. TOLEDO: Nothing from us.
- 2 MR. STRAUCH: Steve.
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 O. I, I quess I'm hung up a little bit on the, on the --
- 5 the physician, the four physicians that apparently are
- 6 contracted or whatever it is a pilots are allowed to see to
- 7 get -- for their certificate that says that they're
- 8 sufficiently competent, what is that physician basing his
- 9 recommendation on? Is it strictly the federal physical --
- 10 A. What's in SHIPS and what's on the, the federal form.
- I mean we don't have our own state physical form. And, you
- 12 know, we're, we're not competent to do that.
- 13 Q. I was aware of that. I wasn't quite sure you were
- 14 aware of that. But the SHIPS primary and the federal form?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Great. Thank you. That's it.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No questions.
- 18 MR. STRAUCH: Ross.
- 19 MR. STRAUCH: Nothing for the --
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: One last question.
- 21 BY UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:
- 22 O. The four physicians that were -- that, that the
- 23 Commission uses to send their pilots to, what additional
- 24 training, guidance information does the Commission provide
- 25 these physicians so that they would be familiar with what is

- 1 expected of a qualified pilot to perform --
- 2 A. We do not give them any training. We provide them
- 3 with the, the SHIPS manual. That is something we're, we're
- 4 looking into as far as, you know, should we be doing more. But
- 5 right now we're just operating what was approved, and seeing if
- 6 there's some, some better way to do it.
- 7 Q. And you said the Commission is reviewing whether or
- 8 not to provide more information?
- 9 A. Well, we want to see what else is out there. The
- 10 SHIPS guidelines as approved go back to 1985, and it could be
- 11 that the Coast Guard has a NAVIC out that may be what we want
- 12 to say is the guideline, but that's being reviewed.
- 13 Q. Okay. And what precipitated the review?
- 14 A. Well, the Cosco Busan incident. Although we, we've
- 15 known for a long time that the SHIPS guidelines were there in
- 16 1985. There was a 1996 update on it, but it was never
- 17 approved.
- 18 Q. What about the Cosco Busan incident that precipitated
- 19 the reconsideration of the guidelines?
- 20 A. Well, there's nothing in here that addresses
- 21 medications.
- 22 Q. As long as the pilot provided the Coast Guard with a
- 23 list of medications that he was taking, would that be the Coast
- 24 Guard's responsibly or the Pilots' Commission's responsibility
- 25 to ensure that those medications were acceptable for use while

- 1 on duty?
- 2 A. Well, once again, we don't have any competence in
- 3 that field, so it's not included in our requirements now, and
- 4 we don't have the expertise to make any decisions on it.
- 5 Q. You said the guidelines were revised in 1994 but they
- 6 were not approved?
- 7 A. '96, I believe.
- 8 Q. '96. Okay. Why were they not approved?
- 9 A. I don't know.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 MR. STRAUCH: No further questions. Anybody else
- 12 further questions?
- 13 All right, Captain. It's now 10:10 -- 10:08. I
- 14 appreciate -- if you can offer us any further comment before we
- 15 conclude this --
- 16 CAPT. MALONEY: No.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Whether on the record or off,
- 18 to the extent that Captain Maloney was going from memory about
- 19 certain things and that in fact there is additional information
- 20 available, can that be provided along with the documents that
- 21 you asked for?
- MR. STRAUCH: Yes, please.
- That concludes the interview. Thank you very much.
- 24 (Whereupon, at 10:08 a.m., the interview in the
- 25 above-entitled matter was concluded.)

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: M/V COSCO BUSAN/BRIDGE ALLISION

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Interview of Capt. Patrick Maloney

DOCKET NUMBER: DCA-08-MM-004

PLACE:

DATE: January 31, 2008

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to the recording accomplished at the hearing.

Katherine Motley

Transcriber